



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 2023

Evan Gershkovich
c/o The Wall Street Journal
1211 6th Ave
New York, NY 10036

Dear Mr. Gershkovich,

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, stand with you. We have and will continue to advocate for your immediate release and hope to welcome you and all other wrongfully detained Americans abroad home soon.

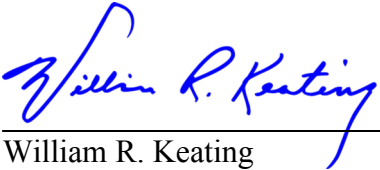
In the free world, we believe in supporting an unfettered and vibrant press to help all people make informed decisions related to their everyday lives and the democratic elections they participate in. The role you and your fellow foreign correspondents play is vital to our global understanding of the world at large and a central pillar of any democracy. We commend you for your tireless efforts to report on hard-hitting subjects, uncover the truth, and shine a light on the lived experiences of the Russian people. Through your courageous journalistic endeavors, you have eloquently demonstrated how free speech and freedom of the press are the cornerstones of democracy around the world.

At the same time, we have followed Vladimir Putin's ongoing and increasing efforts to not only narrow the space for a free press in Russia, but ultimately fully and completely control the information environment within the Russian Federation. Since 2014, Russia has imprisoned 89 journalists, expelled Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and forcibly shut down independent Russian media in the country. We fully condemn these actions, and we will continue to support freedom of the press initiatives in Russia and all other authoritarian states making the same strategic decision.

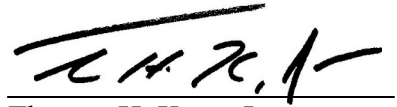
Evan, please know the support and advocacy on your behalf extends far beyond the signatories of this letter. It is clear that Russia has not only violated your basic human rights but has stolen part of your life since your detention in March. Your detention is an illegal and flagrant violation of your rights.

While the time stolen from you and other wrongfully detained Americans like Paul Whelan may never be returned, we, as Members of Congress, are fully committed to taking action to secure your freedom and that of all Americans wrongfully detained in Russia. Please stay strong and know that we will continue to advocate for your swift and immediate release.

Sincerely,



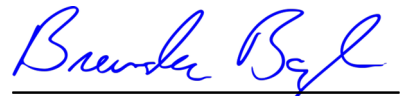
William R. Keating
Ranking Member
House Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on Europe



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Chairman
House Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on Europe



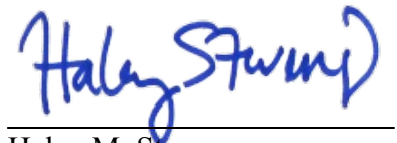
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



French Hill
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



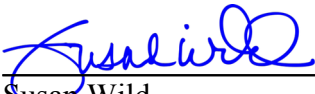
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Susan Wild
Member of Congress



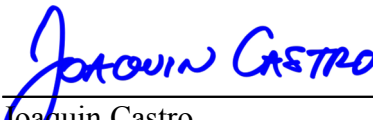
Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



María Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



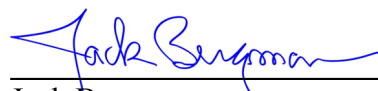
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress




David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



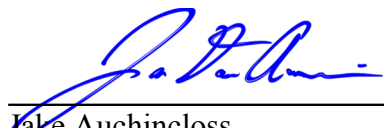
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



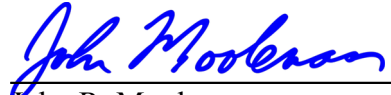
Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



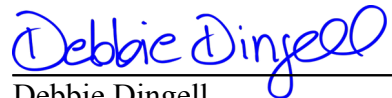
Ted W. Lieu
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John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress



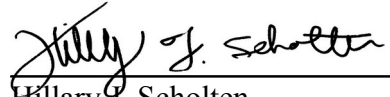
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



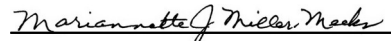
Patrick K. Ryan
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Pat Fallon
Member of Congress



Mariannette Miller-Meeks,
M.D.
Member of Congress



Andy Kim
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



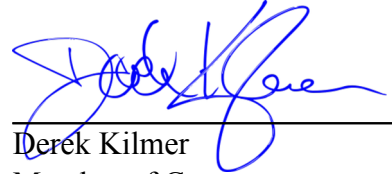
Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress




Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



David J. Trone
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Kathy Manning
Member of Congress



Aumua Amata Coleman
Radewagen
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Monica De La Cruz
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



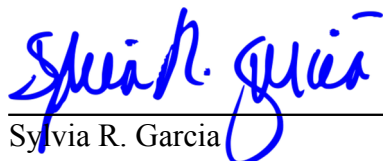
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



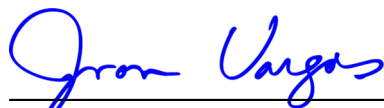
Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



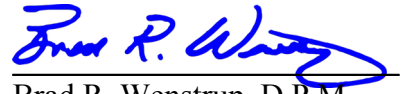
Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Member of Congress



Susie Lee
Member of Congress